

U of A janitors allege unfair treatment, sue Bee-Clean



MATT HIRJI
Sports Editor

A group of janitors at the University of Alberta are suing Bee-Clean Building Maintenance, their employer and one of the U of A's contractors, for alleged exploitative practices.

The five workers, who are primarily immigrants and Temporary Foreign Workers, accuse Bee-Clean of refusing to pay overtime and forcing their employees to perform unpaid labour. They also allege that Bee-Clean threatened to terminate and deport them back to the Philippines if they unionized. They are now in the process of suing Bee-Clean to reclaim \$42,435 of lost wages.

Danilo de Leon, a Bee-Clean Temporary Foreign Worker from the Philippines, accused Bee-Clean management of unfair treatment of him and his co-workers.

"Our paychecks were short and we were not paid overtime, like it says [we are entitled to] in our contract. 'Enough,' we said, and approached our boss with our concerns, but they just gave us false promises and ignored the issue," de Leon said. "One day, my supervisor came and told me that the company was upset because one of the Filipino [workers] had called the union. He said 'Any one of you who try to join the union will be sent back home to the Philippines.'"

De Leon asserts that he and his co-workers were required to complete tasks that were not within his job description, and on two occasions, he was forced to perform manual labour at his supervisor's house without monetary retribution.

"We are really exploited here. Not just the foreign workers, but [also] all the workers from [Bee-Clean]," de Leon said.

WORKER SOLIDARITY The janitors sat under the banner of "Justice for Janitors," a workers' movement within the Service Employees International Union.

PLEASE SEE **JANITORS** ♦ PAGE 2
ALSO SEE **EDITORIAL** ♦ PAGE 4

New Animal Health program opens to first-year students

EVAN DAUM
News Staff

A new Bachelor of Science in Animal Health degree will now give undergraduate students at the University of Alberta access to a one-of-a-kind program in Canada.

The degree program will provide students hoping to enter veterinary school with the requirements by offering them a background in animal biology and behaviour.

"There's no Bachelor of Science in Animal Health to our knowledge anywhere in Canada," program chair Craig Wilkinson pointed out. "Other universities have animal science degrees, but without the ability to focus on all the aspects of animal health we have."

The creation of the program within the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences began several years ago after calls from the provincial government to increase focus within the area of animal health. Development was spearheaded by Dean of Students Frank Robinson, who is the former associate dean (academic) within the faculty.

"It was seen that there was a big need for animal health in the province. It was about the time the Alberta government was paying a lot of attention to animal health as a result of the one case of mad cow disease that happened," Wilkinson said.



DAN MCKECHNIE

BACHELOR OF BOVINE The program teaches students about both domestic and feed animals.

Those calls for increased attention to animal health helped spur the creation of the program, and has afforded students the opportunity to take classes in a new combination catered to the field.

"We tried to incorporate aspects that have been in animal science, but also in the Faculty of Science that hadn't been put together in a

cohesive package that students could access all in one degree program," Wilkinson said.

With three different majors within the program — Companion and Performance Animals, Food Animals, and Food Safety and Quality — government and industry players alike are taking note.

For students that hope to move onto

veterinary school, the program provides the perfect opportunity to fulfill admission requirements for one of western Canada's two vet programs at the University of Saskatchewan or the University of Calgary.

"Certainly our Animal Science degree would've done that, but it didn't have the opportunities to take the animal health courses — the immunology, the food safety — and all that. This is crossing over into that aspect of it," Wilkinson said.

After the degree program had a soft launch this past January for transfer students, the initial crop of first-year students are currently enrolled, and from early indications, the program has been well-received by both professors and students.

"In teaching the first-year class, I find that students are really excited in the program. I think they find it really useful to have a program that they can see meets the things they're really interested in," Wilkinson said.

For first-year student Larkin Joevenazzo, the program provided her the perfect opportunity to get an undergrad degree that could satisfy the requirements for veterinary school while focusing specifically on animal health, as opposed to a general science degree.

"The topics we cover are fascinating. It's the type of stuff I want to learn about as opposed to say, bio or chem," Joevenazzo said.

inside
THIS
ISSUE



Cats in water

Social media has changed human interaction. The documentary *Catfish* examines a brave new dating scene.

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Bears on ice

The Golden Bears hockey team opened up their 95th season with two wins against the Dinos last weekend.

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colophon

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contributors

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NEWS BRIEF

COUNCILLORS TAKE THE MIC

Students' Council representatives took to SUBStage last Thursday for a town-hall meeting, in which students asked them questions about their work in the Students' Union.

The seven councillors who participated fielded questions on a wide range of topics, including the international student differential fee and how they work with faculty associations. The councillors also discussed the bylaw surrounding dedicated fee units.

Some students also offered suggestions to help the Students' Union increase their visibility; one student recommended they hold a campus-wide event. In response, Vice President (Student Life) Rory Tighe took to the stage to explain some of his initiatives, including another dodgeball game and a musical in the second semester.

Petros Kusmu, an Arts councillor who

organized and also participated in the townhall, said he was pleased with the response to the meeting.

"I thought the turnout was fair, considering that we had such a short amount of time to actually advertise the event. Because this is the first time the SU has ever done it, there were a lot of kinks," he said. "But since we've done this already, it's going to be easier the second time coming, and the fact that we're doing this is, by itself, great. We had some people ask questions [...] which is fantastic."

Sara Aktary, a fourth-year education student who was present for the forum, said that she wasn't in SUB specifically for the town-hall, but it was still an informative event.

"It's nice to hear about what [the SU] is doing with the money that's coming to them. It's nice insight to what's going on," she said. "People always question about where that money goes, so if people are complaining, they might as well listen to what [the councillors are] saying."

—Alexandria Eldridge,
Senior News Editor

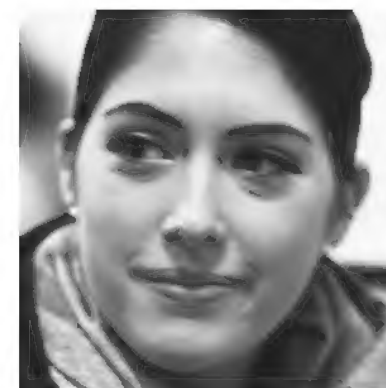
AARON YEO

SPEAK OUT Councillor Petros Kusmu helped organize the town-hall meeting.

STREETERS

Compiled and photographed by
Simon Yackulic and Matt Hirji

As you may be aware, ALES has a new Animal Health degree program starting this semester. What new program would you like to see at the U of A?

Chelsea Geiger
ALES IVAirell
DesLauriers
ALES IVCody Au
Nursing IIIAllwyn Merritt
Arts I

Underwater basket weaving, because it would be kickass.

Extreme Animal Wrestling Techniques 101 would be pretty good.

I think they should have a course, maybe once a week, that tells you what that field [that you are interested in] is about, before you actually get into it, because once you actually get in, you're kind of stuck. Like any professional degree, like law or pharmacy.

I'd like to see pre-law — something you could take before if you're thinking about law.

The School of Energy and the Environment (SEE) invites you to attend our 2nd presentation in our "SEE the research at work" seminar series 2010-11:

Green Biorefineries and Tomorrows Future Economy

Dr. David Bressler,
Agricultural, Food and Nutritional Science and Director for the Biorefining Conversions Network

Over the past decade there has been gathering awareness that society must change in order to find sustainable solutions to support growing and advancing populations around the world. It has become abundantly clear that cheap energy will become increasingly hard to find and that several solutions will be needed to keep up with growing global demand. Unfortunately, as hydrocarbon reserves are depleted, most of the proposed solutions do not offer replacements for the proportion of crude oil currently utilized for materials, solvents, and other industrial applications. Biorefineries and the use of biomass for the production of energy and co-products offer one promising strategy. This presentation will delve into the current status of various biorefining technologies and will discuss how Alberta, with its abundant resources and expertise in forestry, agriculture, energy, and petrochemicals, is in a prime position to be a global leader over the next century. Non-renewables will continue to be the major contributor to Alberta's economy, but failing to capitalize on this renewable opportunity would mean missing several value-added opportunities for the economy. Are we ready and willing to make the same investment in green technologies for future generations?

Date: Thursday, October 7th, 2010 | **Registration** starts at 12:00 pm | **Seminar:** 12:15 pm to 1:30 pm
Location: Stollery Executive Development Centre, 5-04 Business Building, University of Alberta
Please RSVP online at <http://www.see.ualberta.ca>
Questions? School of Energy and the Environment (SEE): uasee@ualberta.ca

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LISA LIN

Engineering Expo showcases faculty research, student clubs

HAYLEY DUNNING
News Staff

Hundreds of would-be engineers gathered at the Engineering Expo on September 25, a weekend event that featured a laser guitar, award-winning vehicle designs, and a lecture based on the popular MythBusters television series.

The Expo was held at the University of Alberta and was organized this year to coincide with Alumni Week so that Faculty of Engineering alumni would have the chance to participate. They joined students, professors, and staff in presenting the opportunities offered by engineering clubs and classes.

Mechanical engineering professors Jason Carey and Warren Finlay busted a few myths for the audience, including the coriolis effect, a fable that the direction bathtub water drains depends on which hemisphere you're in. The two created the

seminar three years ago to allow engineering students to use their skills to solve real-world questions, although their solutions are often "less sexy" than those on MythBusters.

"When I'm watching the show, I put my engineering cap on sometimes and I say 'there's an easier solution to this.' It's fun to blow up things, but sometimes you can do it in five minutes. Why try to spend \$20,000 exploding things [...] if we can sit down with a pad of paper or a computer and try to figure the same thing out?" Carey said.

Displays from a variety of groups showed off the inventiveness of engineering students, including a team fresh from a win at the Great Northern Concrete Toboggan Races, and the Formula Society of Automotive Engineers. Several new groups were also recruiting members, such as the first Eco Car team, who hope to put together a hydrogen-fuel vehicle for competition in 2012.

Engineering departments also dis-

played the various ways their projects make a contribution to Canadian living. The transportation research group in the Department of Civil Engineering showed how a computer model of Whitemud Drive could help to predict congestion and cut driving times by implementing a varying speed limit along the route. Also part of civil engineering, the construction engineering and management group have designed living quarters modules that can be built inside and manoeuvred into place with giant cranes much faster than a traditional building — perfect for quick construction in the long Canadian winters.

For the younger budding engineer, the DiscoverE group for kids provided a variety of activities, from creating simple circuits to building straw towers. The group, which has been involved in outreach since 1995, runs workshops and science camps in the summer and special classroom sessions during term time.

Drug reduces spread of airborne disease

MAGGIE VAN DEN BERG
News Writer

A team of researchers at the University of Alberta have developed a drug that could potentially eliminate the spread of infectious disease through coughing and sneezing.

Malcolm King and Gustavo Zayas, researchers in pulmonary medicine at the U of A, have uncovered a drug that may change our approach to seasonal flu prevention. By reducing the amount of droplets produced during a cough or sneeze, King and Zayas believe they can eliminate or greatly reduce airborne transmission of disease.

"It would mean that 95 per cent of the risk of disease transmission would be eliminated, as there is a great reduction in the amount of virus or bacteria coming into the atmosphere," King said.

All this is done with Dextran, a drug already on the market that is commonly found in medications such as eyedrops. When people inhale a small amount of the drug, it changes the mucus composition in the lungs so there are fewer droplets, and the remaining ones stick together before being coughed out.

H1N1, tuberculosis, and SARS are

all infectious diseases which travel in the tiny droplets expelled during a cough. King said that this drug could eliminate a major source of infection for frontline health-care workers and go a long way to prevent pandemics from spreading so quickly.

"It would mean that 95 per cent of the risk of disease transmission would be eliminated."

MALCOLM KING
U OF A RESEARCHER

"If you get widespread transmission during a pandemic, not only do you get a lot of patients, but [if] healthcare workers are affected by the influenza, they're taken out of the system, and the whole medical system risks breaking down," King said.

A major breakthrough in the research surrounding coughing occurred in 2005, when King and Zayas turned to the mechanical engineering department at the U of A for help. Along with doctorate student Anwarul Hasan and his associate

professor Carlos Lange, the researchers were able to develop an artificial cough machine to test the effects of the drug on bioaerosol, the tiny droplets expelled during a cough or sneeze.

"It's a small device built in the lab; you have a section where the air is stored [artificial lung], and where the air passes through prior to being expelled [artificial trachea]. And if you control the pressure and suddenly trigger the flow, air comes out at a very high speed in a way that mimics a cough," Hasan said.

Using the cough machine, Hasan discovered how the drug can manipulate the properties of fluids so that there is a minimal amount of droplets generated, reducing transmission and protecting the public.

"When I realized we could control the properties of lung fluid and, in turn, the droplet formation, we thought, 'wow, this will really benefit society as a whole,'" Hasan said. "It's a huge breakthrough in public health."

King and Zayas hope to begin human trials within the next year and have the drug on the market as a spray within three to five years.

Their research was recently published in the journal *Non-Newtonian Fluid Mechanics*.

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U of A needs to clean up contract policies

CLEANING UP GARBAGE IS A MESSY BUSINESS, but every day while students attend classes, dozens of custodial employees work hard so that the university looks clean and respectable. And they deserve to be treated with respect and have their labour rights looked after by the university administration, just as any other employee of the university would.

But some campus janitors are claiming their rights have been trampled.

Five U of A janitorial staff recently filed a labour complaint against Bee-Clean Building Maintenance, a company contracted out by the university for custodial services, alleging the company refused to pay them \$42,435 in overtime pay. Two workers are also claiming that they were fired for attempting to start a union, and accused Bee-Clean management of threatening to deport them back to their home countries if they tried to unionize. Members of U of A staff have rallied for their cause, calling on President Samarasekera to meet with the workers and hear their case. Bee-Clean released a statement on their website denying these allegations and claiming that the two employees were fired for a physical altercation, not as a result of attempts to unionize. Thus far, the only response from the university is from a spokesperson, who said that the university did not get involved in ongoing disputes between contractors and their employees.

While this may induce accusations of callousness from the administration — and already has from faculty members — their response makes sense given the current situation. The university wants to learn more about what happened first, so that they don't accuse the company of something that has yet to be proven and get sued themselves.

However, the university needs to have a policy in place for how to handle situations like this in the future. While the university has its own processes to deal with labour infractions with its own workers, it must also institute regulations in the agreements they sign with contractors so that certain labour standards are maintained and there are reporting mechanisms in place that allow workers to complain about their conditions and prevent situations from escalating to this point. While the university needs to cover its tail legally, they need to make a point of commenting when the issue has come to a close. Otherwise, it will look as if they don't care about working conditions and they risk hurting the reputation of the university amongst staff, students, and the external community at a time when they're working so hard to try to be one of the top institutions in the world.

The university must take a more proactive, preventative stance with their contractors to ensure that there are measures in place to ensure that all employees who work at the university enjoy certain workplace standards. Certainly, if President Samarasekera were willing to meet with the workers to hear them out, it would go a long way towards showing that the administration does care about the complaints of their workers, even at the lowest levels. A serious dialogue needs to take place within the university so that it's clear that the administration is listening to these concerns and not sugar-coating the situation.

If we are to be a truly great university, all staff members need to be guaranteed equal respect and dignity, regardless of whether they are a Professor Emeritus or a part of the janitorial staff. Regardless of the accusations being thrown around, if the situation has gotten to this point, the custodial workers here deserve better.

JOHN KMECH
Editor-in-Chief

Travel advisories useless

The Canadian and U.S. governments have cautioned travellers to stay away from tourist sites in Europe, but there was no indication of what site might be targeted or when. Europe is a big place — an entire continent, in fact, and throwing around vague warnings does more harm than good.

JUSTIN BELL
Managing Editor

Arnold Schwarzenegger takes advantage of California's new decriminalization law.



LANCE MUDRYK

letters TO THE eds

Prof responds regarding increased class sizes

RE: ("Class sizes grow with layoffs, cuts," Aaron Yeo, September 28)

As the instructor who teaches the larger of the two Physics 124 sections to students in CCIS 1-430 — and who probably has the claim of having the largest class on campus when my enrolment cap was bumped first from around 475 to 500, and then again to 516 (room capacity) — I read your article with shock, specifically the assertion by another instructor that the size of the class hasn't affected the quality of teaching.

With perfect certainty, my remaining (read: surviving) 484 students in this problem-solving, mathematically detail-oriented course would disagree. Relative to the ten previous terms I've taught of this course in rooms with capacities of 130 and proper whiteboards, here are seven reasons why I almost vomited:

1) I can't reasonably take the large number of detailed student questions the material engenders (and have any hope of covering what the calendar asks);

2) I'm forced to stand rooted, writing detailed mathematical solutions on a tiny glorified overhead projector called a document camera, which every student

evaluation I've ever had emphatically tells us is the least desirable delivery method. Incidentally, it would be educational suicide to powerpoint the solutions themselves to the questions and merely 'click through;'

3) I'm forced to use online assignments which can't provide meaningful feedback;

4) I can't offer the weekly small-group problem-solving 'tutorials' I used to, in part because this is the only room which could contain the class if everybody theoretically decided to attend;

5) Exams are now necessarily all multiple choice (with inadequate physical space in which to write), so there's even less student feedback;

6) To handle just the questions on in-class material, I have to re-direct assignment questions to the TAs or else be completely overwhelmed on a daily basis in my cramped interior office with its narrow adjacent hallway;

7) CCIS has a traffic flow of approximately 1000 students, each direction, each hour — through one set of exterior doors. Enough said.

Obviously, I could go on about how I'm being forced to violate every tenet of my education degree daily, but I'm approaching the word limit, and haven't even addressed Carl Amrhein's claim that "if a faculty started seeing great enrolment pressure [...] we were able to provide funding to open another section." Really? So why wasn't a third section of Physics 124 opened when the cap had to be increased yet again to

room capacity? I do know why, but I'm not telling.

DR. KIRK KAMINSKY
Faculty Lecturer
Department of Physics

from THE web

Contest raises questions about uses of charity

RE: ("Campus for Christ stirs conversations on campus," Justin Bell and Alexandria Eldridge, September 23)

I agree that the result of this campaign will cause either condemnation or celebration for one individual, and I also agree that this isn't the intent of Campus for Christ. However, I wonder just how much "good" the charitable donation is doing. Agreed, there are causes completely worthy of giving our money to, but the change isn't sustainable. Charities have been around for decades and millions of dollars have been poured into them. Although I do believe that money helps, it isn't the solution. So, to celebrate and applaud someone for making a \$1,000 donation would fall in the same pool of shallow thinking as condemning him/her for using the money towards tuition. (Note: I believe the contest promotes paying for your tuition to a certain degree.)

My actual concern with thoughts on this contest lie in "If Campus for Christ really wanted to make a

statement about morality and being a good person, why don't they offer to help students donate their time and talent?" Do organizations like this exist? I will simply say yes, they do. There are tons of opportunities to volunteer time and talent, yet the majority of the population does not do so. Why? Laziness? Apathy? Why do I not care enough about people and global issues to donate my own time and money? Why do I have to wait for some contest to come around to do so?

If you do care and you are doing something about it, awesome. For the majority of the population, this is not the case. How do you make someone care? This is where the contest leads me. What do I care about most? At the true core of me, what matters? How did I get here? In elementary school, kids are keen on doing good and saving the world. You ask them to think of ways to help the poor and they'll do it joyfully. You ask a university student to think about it and they'll put the question among their piles of homework while they surf the Internet watching Youtube videos. I'm being slightly over dramatic, but you get my point. Where did my morals go? What do I believe in? When no one is looking, what will I choose? That's the deeper question of the contest. Passion doesn't spring up from nowhere ... what causes me to care about people who aren't part of my life?

"TABITHA"
Via Internet

U of A should face its role in eugenics



MUSTAFA FAROOQ

In 2008, the University of Alberta celebrated its centennial anniversary, and launched a website to detail the history of the university's "century of vision." As I was suffering through a rather unpleasant night of insomnia, I thought it would be a good idea to put myself to sleep by reading about the U of A's history. Unfortunately for my sleeping patterns, I became shocked as I realized that nowhere on the main site was there a single mention of the role of the U of A in the eugenics movement.

Eugenics is the practice of attempting to improve the human population by removing undesirable traits from the genetic pool. In Alberta, that meant sexually sterilizing people thought to be mentally defective, as well as members of various ethnic and cultural groups, ultimately ending their chances of ever becoming a parent. The Alberta Sexual Sterilization Act, which created the Alberta Eugenics Board that administered the sterilization program, was passed in 1928. Several amendments broadened the scope of the act, and removed the necessity for patient consent. By the time the act was finally repealed in 1972, more than 2,800 people underwent sterilization procedures.

Frighteningly, First Nations and Metis people made up 27 per cent of the sterilized population, even though they only made up two per cent of Alberta's population at the time.

What's perhaps most disturbing is that when the Alberta Eugenics Board was formed, the University of Alberta Senate was charged with the responsibility of nominating two of the board members. One of them was John M. MacEachran.

One of the most important people in the university's history was responsible for putting the stamp of approval on the sterilizations of 4,700 people.

John MacEachran was one of the most important people in the founding of the university. He was appointed as the head of the new Departments of Psychology and Philosophy in 1909, and he built much of the initial curriculum from scratch, and was thus the progenitor of the Psychology and Philosophy departments at the U of A. MacEachran was responsible for developing a philosophical justification for eugenics, which by all reports, he did with considerable relish. Indeed, one of the most important people in the university's history was responsible for putting the stamp of approval

on the sterilizations of 4,700 people — although only half of those were actually carried out. MacEachran is still honoured by the Department of Psychology, which gives out the MacEachran Humanities Scholarship in Psychology.

That is not to say that MacEachran's legacy has gone uncontested at the U of A. This is due in part to the incredibly brave Leilani Muir, who was sterilized because of her IQ score, Irish-Polish background, and Catholic upbringing. After she was courageous enough to go to court to protest her horrific sterilization, many professors and officials banded together to fight against the institution's honouring of MacEachran. At the same time, though, it is an incredible mark of tragedy that the U of A has, many years later, failed to commemorate the victims of the eugenics project, in which the institution played a fundamental role.

The sad fact is that the U of A has completely brushed over its history with eugenics. It is absolutely necessary that the U of A, striving to fulfill its "century of vision", acknowledge victims and survivors of Alberta's eugenics project. People like Muir deserve to be recognized for their struggles.

Admitting what the University of Alberta has been involved in in the past does not ruin our reputation. Rather, we become a positive role model for other institutions who have been involved in disreputable activities. The university must be willing to acknowledge the past, provide recognition for the survivors, and look forward to the future.

Race to execute shows penalty's fatal flaw



TYLER DAWSON

If the moral arguments against capital punishment in the United States weren't clear enough, the shortage of a powerful sedative — sodium thiopental — ought to seal the deal. The drug's scarcity has affected executions all over the U.S., and has provoked a rush to execute an inmate in California while the constitutionality of his execution remains in limbo.

American executioners are facing a nationwide shortage of the drug that induces unconsciousness for those put to death by lethal injection, due to difficulty obtaining raw materials. It's a rather crucial part of the common three-drug execution process. Sodium thiopental puts the inmate to sleep, before two other drugs paralyze muscles, and finally stop the heart. Without sodium thiopental, the victim would remain conscious for the duration of the execution. However, according to the drug's only American manufacturer, the soonest they can get it back on the market is early 2011, while many states don't have enough left in their supply to carry out scheduled executions.

In total, this shortage has the potential to disrupt 17 other executions across the United States. The most disturbing of these is from California, where the courts have intervened, and ordered a stay on the execution of Albert Greenwood Brown.

In 1980, Brown raped and murdered a high-school girl, and was sentenced to death by a Californian jury on February 19, 1982. Nearly 20 years later, his execution was scheduled for

"The situation in California is one where the emotional, awful aspects of dealing with crime are skewing the discussion. [...] When supporters of the death penalty believe they should sidestep the judiciary and potentially the Constitution, something has gone terrible wrong."

September 29.

Capital punishment in California was put on hiatus by an investigation into alleged deficiencies in the execution process, which was completed on August 29. However, Brown's defence argued that the new lethal injection protocols don't improve upon the old methods.

On September 28, U.S. District Judge Jeremy Fogel delayed the execution, saying that he needed time to determine whether the state had corrected its procedures. The District Attorney's office asked a federal appeals court to overturn the decision, but conceded defeat when the California Supreme Court found that another inmate's challenge to the state's renewed death penalty isn't officially over.

State judges were also not impressed to find that the District Attorney's office had neglected to mention that the last batch of sodium thiopental in the state's possession would expire on October 1, likely explaining the prosecution's desperation to make sure Brown's execution would go on as planned.

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger called it "absurd" that the legal system would prevent the execution from going ahead, but it's insane that deliberations regarding the constitutionality of an execution should be swept aside by a shortage in the toolkit of the executioner. The California courts recognized this — the U.S. Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals said it was "incredible to think the deliberative process might be driven by the expiration date

of the execution drug."

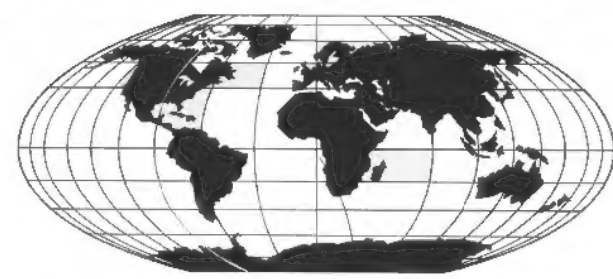
This speaks to the general obscenity of the death penalty, and the motivations behind it. There's little doubt that Brown is guilty of the murder — he phoned his victim's mother to tell her where her daughter's body could be found. And it's simple enough to see why the victim's family would be devastated — the closure they've been seeking has been delayed once again.

But the fundamental tenets of democracy can't be overshadowed by passion. The situation in California is one where the emotional, awful aspects of dealing with crime are skewing the discussion in a way that endangers the rule of law. If the moral, social, and financial arguments against capital punishment are not going to be accepted, then so be it — that's the reality of a democratic society. However, when supporters of the death penalty believe that they should sidestep the judiciary and potentially the Constitution, something has gone terribly wrong.

There are arguments in favour of capital punishment. I don't find them persuasive, but they exist nevertheless. The problem here is that these arguments were passed by, in favour of advocacy for a rushed execution, simply to get it over with before a best-before date.

That sort of shift in focus demonstrates that this isn't about justice anymore; it's about revenge, regardless of what the law says. And when that happens, it's time to shelve the policy and look for alternatives.

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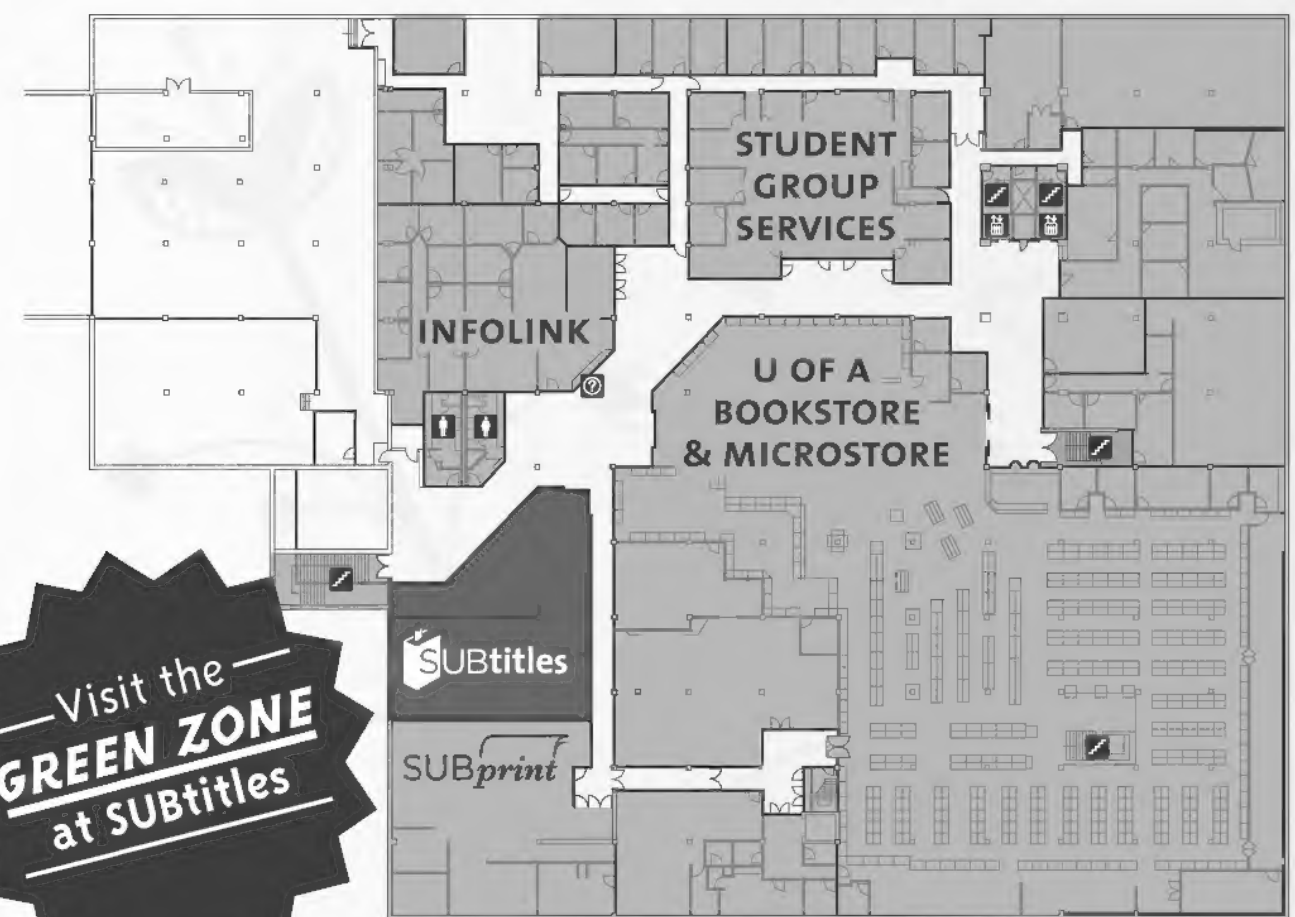
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LETTERS • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Campus for Christ contest winner considers outcome

RE: ("Campus for Christ stirs conversations on campus," Justin Bell and Alexandria Eldridge, September 23)

I would just like to thank both the authors and the commenters for their thoughts on this contest. I was just told I had won the Ryerson Campus contest. When I had heard I won, I immediately jumped to a 50/50 split. But finding out that it is all or nothing really caused me to stop and think about each action, how it will be viewed by others, my personal needs, and whether I can do without.

I come from a poor background and currently am in debt, both with credit cards and student loans. I know this money will help alleviate some of the strain; however, it will not take away all of it. So I view this question of paid vs. aid as equivalent in the amount of impact. The only major difference is the thousand dollars could potentially save people's lives, or help me get out of debt quicker so I can free up resources to do other works.

I have a very idealistic view of education and a career. I view my career choice in the broader context of how I can help and serve the society I live in and the potential impact on other's lives.

So the question really boils down to a personal question of how we justify the decisions we make when people bring attention to two radically different choices. This is what I will be wrestling with in the coming week before I make my final decision.

Either way, I will not make the choice lightly and have been consulting people important to me, scripture (despite the fact that I am not religious, I am looking at how charity is viewed in scripture, the limitations and criteria for giving), the possibility of changing people's lives in a third world nation, and whether I can do without this fortunate windfall in my own time of need.

If for nothing else, the news of my winning the contest brings about a great internal debate on my own morality and the choices I make.

"ALEX"
Via Internet

Stand Against Poverty event coverage fair, balanced

RE: ("News in Brief: Of poverty and pumpkins," Simon Yackulic, September 20)

Thank you, Simon, for writing an accurate description of the Stand Against Poverty event two weeks ago. Many people don't realize how much impact an event of that size has on generating new and positive identities that entire institutions can rally behind. The main purpose of the event is to generate political will to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, but there is also a big disconnect between students, the faculty, and their Students' Union that well-planned events like the Stand Against Poverty are serving to bridge.

It would be great to have longer articles written about the Stand event that talk about some of the actions and partnerships that are launched because the focus of the event is to not simply make declarations that "We Dare to Care," but to make statements about what concrete actions we are taking right here and now on our own campus and within our own city. Every dean that attended described what they were doing in their faculties on these issues and because we documented them, we are using Stand 2011 as a follow-up to measure and see how far they have come.

The event is extremely multidimensional. It is an evaluation system, a mechanism to generate political will, a way to build strong networks, an opportunity to send a unified message all on top of being a general awareness campaign that garners the attention of important student newspapers like this one.

MARK MCCORMACK
Via Internet

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca or delivered to SUB 3-04. Website comments may occasionally be printed. The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. Letters to the editor should be no longer than 400 words, and should include the author's name, program, and year of study to be considered for publication.



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: AARON YEO

The pains of being 17 at university

ALANA
WILLERTON



You've probably seen us around at some point or another — the group of students who stare wistfully as we drive past you at the club on Friday nights, or who have to politely decline that invitation to 35-cent wing night at Hudsons, all because of one tiny little detail: we're underage.

That's right, there are living, breathing minors who walk and learn among the rest of you seasoned scholars at this university. Don't look so shocked — if you think back far enough, you could recall that you may have spent your first few months at this fine institution as part of our group. If you started university only after hitting that grand marker, count yourselves lucky. Being underage in university is an experience we could all do without quite nicely.

The unfortunate state of being under 18 at university is something that nobody thinks about unless they are among the small minority of those forced to live through it. Being one of those unfortunate people myself, I can let you in on a secret: it's lousy. Missing months worth of friends'

and acquaintances' birthdays, school events, and general get-togethers does not make for a happy minor.

Take the Students' Union Week of Welcome last month. There were entertainers, bands, and drinks — everything imaginable to ensure a good time for all. Of course, by "all," I actually mean everyone over 18. With almost every event catering to the 18 and over crowds, I was among many first-years forced to return home for the night.

The unfortunate state of being under 18 for the first few months of university is something that nobody thinks about unless they are among the small minority of those forced to live through it.

It's an unfortunate coincidence that WoW, which is intended to welcome back returning students and make first time students feel like part of the action, actually ended up freezing out some of their intended audience. While this was obviously unintentional on the part of the organizers, it is nonetheless a reality that some first-year students are faced with all too frequently in university. Despite being

consistently, we just want to experience university life for the first time with our friends, not months after they have.

And then there's the whole clubbing issue. Week after week, I am invited to attend one club or another by a friend who has yet again forgotten my age, and week after week, I am forced to remind them of my underage status and my inability to accompany them. You would think that this is the worst part of being underage — the "being unable to drink and dance with our friends at the clubs" part.

But it's not the lack of drinking or excitement that's so disheartening, but rather the fact that we continually miss out on get-togethers that include all of our closest friends. We're forced to become spectators to their gatherings. If it were only a couple of them, it wouldn't be so bad. But anyone who is currently underage knows that they are most likely among the last of their friends to be reaching the all-important milestone, which has probably resulted in more than a few quiet weekends spent at home.

It would be naïve of me to expect every event and occasion to be altered to accommodate all ages from now on; I can imagine the hate mail already. So in the meantime, we minors will be here waiting for our day to come. And when it does, you better believe we'll be making the most of it — we've certainly waited long enough.

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- Conduct a board member by-election
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Intramural Sports Men's Council	• must be a member of the council
Intramural Sports Women's Council	• must be a member of the council
Sports Clubs Advisory Council	• must be a current member of the council
Campus Recreation Special Events	• interest and participating in Campus Recreation Special Events
Group Fitness/Instructional Recreation	• must be an active participant in Group Fitness or Instructional Recreation programs
Residence Hall Recreation Programs	• current resident in an RHA residence
International Students Representative	• current U of A student attending as an International Student
Graduate Student Association	• Graduate Student and active participant in Campus Recreation programs.
Interfraternity Council	• member of a recognized U of A fraternity and active in Campus Recreation programs.
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Catfish documentary nets strange Facebook love story

filmpreview

Catfish

Directed by Henry Joost and Ariel Schulman
Starring Nev Schulman
Opens October 8

EVAN MUDRYK
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Documentaries aren't usually known for being particularly thrilling, but *Catfish* is an exception and co-director Ariel is clearly used to critics calling out his film as not being wholly true, but he relents.

"One hand is on my heart, the other is raised in the sign of a boy scout oath: [this movie] is 100 per cent true and is a pure documentary," Schulman insists over the phone.

The trailer for the film states that it's not based on a true story, nor inspired by true events, but is indeed "the truth" plain and simple. But considering its surprising ending, it's not exactly a shock that many people who caught early screenings of the film were a bit skeptical of *Catfish*'s almost too-good-to-be-true conclusion.

And why shouldn't they be suspicious? With the recently released Joaquin Phoenix's mockumentary *I'm Still Here* mirroring *Catfish* so close in presentation, it's no wonder that people have been coached to be wary of what to believe from films that present themselves as the truth. After all, when you can't trust the legitimacy of newly formed hip-hop careers promoted on David Letterman, why should you believe three anonymous filmmakers who have everything to gain from inventing the perfect ending to their part-documentary, part-thriller, surprise Sundance hit?

"We sort of felt like we were detectives, and were on the frontline of something that was



"When you take nine months of a relationship and put it into an hour-and-a-half film, obviously you need to leave some things out."

NEV SCHULMAN
SUBJECT, CATFISH

dangerous and exciting — and not for the faint of heart," he says.

In the end, all you really have is their word. As surprising as it might be, it's true. All of it.

Catfish tells the love story of an unlikely couple, Nev (the brother of one of the film's directors) and Megan. Their relationship is separated from

the slew of Hollywood love tales by the great distance placed between the film's two lovers. Nev meets Megan over Facebook through a mutual friend — Abby, a young admirer of Nev's photography and Megan's sister — and their connection quickly develops from there. They share phone conversations, she writes songs for Nev,

and he reciprocates by photoshopping pictures of them into the same photo. In a lot of ways, they're a modern day Romeo and Juliet, with a lot more posting on each other's walls and a lot less bloody tragedy at the end.

Without giving too much away, a few mysteries surrounding this far-flung girlfriend begin to appear, making the latter half of the film quite unlike most others within the documentary genre. But even if the events themselves are true, it's clear that the dramatic fashion in which the film unfolds is, at least in part, by the filmmakers' design.

"There were absolutely moments in the course of my relationship with this family where [I was] suspicious or curious or worried about things they were telling me," Nev, the subject of the film, explains. "We chose to leave those moments out."

"When you take nine months of a relationship and put it into an hour-and-a-half film, obviously you need to leave some things out," he explains, "and in an effort to let the viewer go on the same journey as I went on, you had to leave out some of the skepticism or suspicion, because otherwise it would've given away something too early on [in] the film."

Although the directors did exclude a few moments of discretion on their part, the dramatic tone felt throughout the film's latter scenes is also a consequence of the filmmakers' collective bravery. One of the film's best scenes, where the three of them decide to travel to Megan's farm late at night, was also one of the hardest to capture on film and also one of the most tense.

"I think that was probably the scariest moment in my life so far and I think all the things the audience imagines happening at that point, we were imagining and fearing would happen too," says Henry Joost, the other co-director.

"Moments like that, the camera really makes you feel brave and, in a way, allows you to do things you'd wouldn't otherwise do."

Call it *Little Miss Anti-Sunshine*

filmreview

Let Me In

Directed by Matt Reeves
Starring Kodi Smit-McPhee, Chloë Moretz, and Richard Jenkins
Now Playing

DAVID JOHNSTON
Arts & Entertainment Staff

If the marketing for *Let Me In* wasn't so aggressively promoting the fact that the movie is about a 12-year-old vampire, I would feel a little bad spoiling it in the first sentence of a review.

But the film's asking for it. Director Matt Reeves doesn't seem particularly interested in exploring the "whys" of his paranormal drama, preferring to focus on the much more interesting "what nows." Prepubescent boy Owen (Kodi Smit-McPhee) befriends the pale-and-creepy Abby — played by Chloë Moretz, who's in serious danger of being typecast as a murderous tween after this and *Kick-Ass* — who just moved into his apartment complex for reasons not made clear.

Of course, there's the apparently mandatory pre-reveal sequence for this first quarter of the film: Owen overhearing angry rumblings coming from the other side of his bedroom wall, sullen-eyed Abby walking barefoot through the snow, her father figure (Richard Jenkins, delivering a wonderfully underplayed performance)

butchering and collecting the blood from an anonymous teen in the backwoods. It would all be very creepy if vampires weren't so ingrained in our culture that the audience is reaching for their pocket crucifixes and muttering "When is she going to sparkle?" to themselves by the time Jenkins drags a coffin-sized packing trunk down the apartment hallway.

But once the first bloody assault unfolds and we all throw up our hands and pretend we didn't see that one coming, the film settles into exploring the logistics of what exactly it means to be an immortal monster embodied in an innocent little girl. Abby has little concern for the reasons behind why she can't go out into the sunlight or why she must be invited into Owen's home. "I only know that's what happens if you don't let me in," she bluntly explains after demonstrating her incredibly creepy symptoms resulting from uninvited entry. It's refreshing to watch a supernatural story that doesn't get bogged down in its own mythology.

The story compares pretty favourably to the vampire pantheon, in fact. There's nary a tin-eared *Twilight*-esque line of dialogue to be heard; indeed, this sharp rewrite of the Swedish original *Let the Right One In* refuses to rely on the dialogue at all. Not because the child actors are incapable, however, as they're both quite good — Moretz in particular conveys the dualities of impatient youngster and weary centuries-old wanderer

exceedingly well, possibly landing in the zone of an Abigail Breslin-style Oscar nod.

But Reeves correctly chooses to unleash his penchant for visual storytelling upon the audience, ratcheting up the tension with carefully framed shots. Credit must still be given to Stan Salfas and Kim Foscato for their clever editing, which frequently overlap the previous scene's soundtracks with the next, an effect that serves to reinforce the tightening, claustrophobic atmosphere. Frequently, the movie plays with voices coming from unseen sources, crafting Owen's disorienting and intrusive world while immersing us in its many confusions.

Granted, Reeves gets a little heavy-handed with his metaphors at times (yes, we get that Owen's mother is barely a presence in his life; you don't need to obnoxiously refrain from ever showing her continually-observed-by-props face). And at almost two hours, the movie is pushing the boundaries of how long audiences will sit with what becomes a pattern of attack-repent-repeat by the end. But it doesn't hinge on gore and special effects, and it presents enough memorable moments — the violence of Owen's classmates, for instance, or the intricacies of the relationship between Jenkins and his blood-drinking child — to not be dismissed as just another vampire flick. Don't turn *Let Me In* away when it comes a-knockin'. Seriously, don't; you'll never get that stain out of your carpet if you do.





ERIKA LUCKERT

Best friends share Walterdale's *Perfect Pie*

theatrepreview

Perfect Pie

Directed by Mary Jane Kriesel
Written by Judith Thomson
Starring Holly Cinnamon, Michele Vance Hehir, Nicole Lemay, and Stephanie Wigston
Walterdale Playhouse (10322-83 Ave.)
Runs October 6-16 at 8 p.m. (matinee October 10 at 2 p.m.)
\$12-\$16 at Tix on the Square or at the door (October 7 is 2-for-1 at the door only)

ERIKA LUCKERT
Arts & Entertainment Writer

In the chatter as the actors prepare for their scene, somebody comments that Holly Cinnamon is looking "a little post-fresh." It's a fair description of the actress playing Marie in the Walterdale's upcoming production of *Perfect Pie*. Cinnamon is, at that moment, quite filthy. She's smudged from head to toe, with her hair tousled, and it looks like she might have come from a place of significant trauma, except

for the joyous smile splashed across her face. "I just love going to that place where I don't know what's going to happen next," she says, explaining her bubbly expression. The place Cinnamon's referring to is the mind, namely remembrance. Playwright Judith Thomson's *Perfect Pie* tells a story about the childhood memories between two friends who, after meeting up again after years apart, reminisce about an accident that becomes the climax of the play. *Perfect Pie* has crossed a few mediums — originally, it was written as a television monologue in 1993, then adapted for the stage in 2000. It became a film as well in 2002, which starred Rachel McAdams as Patsy. Cinnamon fittingly describes the play as "not quite realism," but rather something that exists in a "liminal space between various realities." For her, the play questions how much of what is seen onstage is actually happening at all. This sheds an interesting light on her character Marie, and her older self, known as Francesca in the play. After all, if the present is merely imagination, it's possible that Francesca doesn't exist, though this is only one interpretation. The crux of the tale is in the charming relationship between friends than in the story itself.

"It's about a relationship [between] two people who know each other better than anybody else," she says. "You have this nostalgia about your childhood [...] [but] you can never get back there." Still, for Patsy and Marie (or even Francesca), assuming memories are trapped in the "liminal space," the relationship that exists between friends is something that survives even throughout the passing years. With only days left until *Perfect Pie* opens, Cinnamon's confident that she's ready for the show. "At this point, you just have to trust that you're ready," she says. "I could work on this [play] for the rest of my life or I could stop tomorrow. [Now it's about] being present in the moment and having fun." Cinnamon — a student at the University of Alberta, currently completing her Bachelor of Arts with an honours in drama — certainly seems to be having fun. She exudes a love of the dramatic art, and an enthusiasm for the Walterdale production of *Perfect Pie* that inspires confidence in not only her performance, but in the entire play as well. "Bring your best friend to this play. It's not a date play. It's not a parents play. It's a friends play."

siteunseen

I'D SAY EAT SHIT, BUT THAT WOULDN'T BE HELPFUL, HOW ABOUT SOME FUCKING

PAN-FRIED SMOKED HADDOCK WITH BEETROOT PUREE AND SAUTEED SWEET POTATOES

I DON'T FUCKING LIKE THAT.

I DON'T FUCKING EAT MEAT.

What the Fuck Should I Make For Dinner
whatthefuckshouldimakefordinner.com

JUSTIN BELL
Managing Editor

It happens to us all. After a long day at school, you undoubtedly require sustenance to stave off those pangs of hunger. The problem? Your grueling studies have sapped you of all your energy, along with your ability to be creative in the kitchen.

So you think to yourself, "what the fuck should I make for dinner?" Luckily, there's a site created to suit your needs.

The aptly named whatthefuckshouldimakefordinner.com is a conglomeration of random curse words and amazing recipes — bringing together both of my grandmother's favourite things: cussing and cuisine.

The front-page features a simple design, offering you to "try some fucking" or "make some fucking" food item, followed by a link to a recipe so avant-garde, merely attempting it will garner you two Michelin stars. Middle Eastern bison meatballs with cilantro yogurt sauce or sake sea bass in parchment are just two of the thousands of exotic meals you can learn to make while partaking in profanity.

The recipes are all pulled from Epicurious.com, an online menu repository with enough food ideas to keep a small Bulgarian army fed for a month — assuming they were invading Gordon Ramsay's kitchen.

The site makes concessions for those who aren't partial to eating once-living animals with an option for "I don't fucking eat meat." And if you live in an area where it works, you have the option of "I don't fucking want to cook," allowing you to find new restaurants in your area.

The whole site reeks of pretention, a sort of misanthropic hipster attitude combined with the fine dining options they'd surely throw in your face at local vegan rooftop parties.

But have some fun with it. You can click through multiple recipes before getting something you want, all while being berated. Get over yourself and maybe you'll find something to fucking eat that isn't the same fucking Kraft Dinner that you're usually fucking resigned to.



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Plaza courtyards,
I can't swim among them,
So I'll drink instead a star

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albumreview

The Black Angels
Phosphene Dream
Blue Horizon Records

GRANT CRAWFORD
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Opening with “Bad Vibrations,” *Phosphene Dream* resembles more of a nightmare than a dream. An ominous stomping drum along with a fuzzed-out guitar line echoes with a driving immediacy. Underneath, Andrew Maas’ creepy and revered voice croons words to be interpreted either as the only sane voice left in the world, or pure lunacy, but certainly not both.

As things progress in the album, they begin to lighten up. Appropriately, a phosphene is a stimulation of the visual system by something other than light. But here the phosphene dream is a lie; you’re not going to see anything new. The Black Angels reach back into the history of rock to create psychedelic music worthy of their influences. “Yellow Elevator #2” is a tribute to Pink Floyd, circa 1968–71, while many other songs fit neatly into the same tradition.

Contextually, *Phosphene Dream* is to be understood as a haze which follows the band around. It’s the fog that fills the basements and small clubs where they undoubtedly got their start and feel most comfortable in. Mostly, it’s concentrated stoner rock — heavy repeated riffage repeated. Stoner rock is a label often applied derisively, for its definition implies that the music requires substances to supplement the sound, but The Black Angels surmount this criticism, as their music alone serves its purpose regardless.



albumreview

We the Kings
Smile Kid
S-Curve Records

KRISTINE NIELSEN
Arts & Entertainment Writer

When iTunes promised me punk after importing *Smile Kid*, I was legitimately looking forward to hearing how Disney Channel’s Demi Lovato — featured on “We’ll Be a Dream,” the album’s second single — would handle a genre so foreign to her. Unfortunately, all I got was a sappy love ballad that wanted to put me to sleep. And if you had high hopes for “In-N-Out (Animal Style),” it doesn’t even manage to be as dirty as the name implies.

The second album from emo-pop quartet We the Kings is packed full of nonsensical, whimsical lyrics characteristic of the genre. Just like any boy band worth its salt, they soulfully express their love to the apparently numerous women in their lives. Because, ladies, who doesn’t love a song that promises you a love that will make you fly? Then you can “dance with satellites.”

If that’s not really your thing, you could always fall into an obligatory summer love, or “count the stars in the desert on a magic night.” Combine those unbelievably unimaginative lyrics with a long-haired, skinny-jean-clad lead singer — whose voice dangerously borders on falsetto — and what do you have? Every single wannabe-punk band that fell off the Vans Warped tour. If an emo boy band spouting tired clichés and ridiculous imagery is what you crave, then this might be worth your time. Otherwise, I’ll be over here, waiting for Lovato’s true effort in the punk genre. I can still dream.

THE FINER THINGS

It wasn’t that long ago that I dismissed Kanye West’s performance of his now newly-released single, “Runaway,” on this year’s VMAs. While his debut rendition was perfectly competent, it seemed to be missing something — which was, as it turns out, approximately half a dozen ballerinas and a stark white backdrop.

This past Saturday, West appeared on what was widely reported to be a flat episode of the usually mediocre late-night sketch show, *Saturday Night Live*. The episode saw host Bryan Cranston written into uninspired roles that ranged from “pervy gym coach” to “pervy game-show host” — but West’s portion ended up being one of the few modern-day

SNL musical performances that managed to be both memorable and not shitty (remember Ke\$ha’s appearance earlier this year?). It actually managed to be a treat for the senses, handling the visual component with an elegance superior to many music videos, juxtaposing West with a white background and impressive collection of choreographed dancing, all set to “Power” and, in his second performance, “Runaway.” If 2009 made West the “abomination of Obama’s nation,” it was all worth it. He’s currently doing better than the American economy.

EVAN MUDRYK

The Finer Things is a semi-regular feature in which Gateway pop culture pundits point to a particularly relevant or pretentious example of art, celebrating it for all of its subjective merit.



albumreview

Humans
Avec Mes Mecs
Blood & Matter

WAYNE SIMON
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Avec Mes Mecs is a deliciously sick album, which is to say it’s very good.

But what does it sounds like? It’s essentially Sally Shapiro except with a de-emphasis of the vocals and missing Shapiro’s saccharine pop sound. It’s a shifting, quasi-minimalistic album that echoes the lite-dubstep sensibilities of The xx, although they opt out of the pessimistic melancholy lyrics.

Throbbing synth-bass trades aural footholds with beeps and handclaps in the intense titular song which opens the album, and the rest of the EP is forced to play musical catch-up. The second song — “Mon Ton Ton” — is comparatively dull. It’s followed immediately by “Mon Ton Ton 2,” which very much deserves to stand alone without

the odious “2” tagged at the end of its name, just like any other Hollywood sequel.

That is to say, you do not listen to this album through piss-ant-quality earbuds while “multi-tasking” with a textbook spread open in front of you. Put that Sociology 100 shit away. This album demands to be pumped out of speakers at an unhealthily loud level.

Truth be told, though, the first title track is still the subjective best. Catchy groove aside, it bites and snarls like the electronic bastard child of Arcade Fire. Good stuff. These chaps are from Vancouver and they have some fascinatingly promising tracks on this EP. If you’re into electro-tunes, Humans should work their way onto your playlists.

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Ice Bears take a bite out of Dinos in season opener

hockey roundup

Bears vs. Calgary

EVAN DAUM
Sports Staff

Deuces were wild this weekend for the Alberta Golden Bears. Opening their regular season at home, the Bears received a boost after two separate two-goal performances to lift the reigning Canada West men's hockey champions to a pair of victories over the visiting Calgary Dinos.

Alberta forward Sean Ringrose and his two goals sparked the Bears to a 5-2 victory Friday night, with Derek Ryan chipping in a pair of markers on Saturday to help the Green and Gold to a 4-1 win and the series sweep. Bears head coach Eric Thurston is getting some much-needed offence from his big guns.

"I think our goaltending so far has been excellent [...] your goaltender. That's hopefully going to bode well for us down the way."

ERIC THURSTON
BEARS HOCKEY HEAD COACH

Along with Ringrose and Ryan, freshmen forwards Alex Rodgers Johnny Lazo chipped in with goals over the weekend, while the Bears goaltending provided a consistent backbone for the Bears success.

"The real positive light was good goaltending, but the play of our top six forwards is where we're going to need that offensive production," Thurston explained.

Both rookies on the top two lines looked at home, with Rodgers scoring Friday and Lazo ripping a wrist shot right under the bar Saturday to beat Calgary netminder Kris Lazaruk.

"We all know how Johnny Lazo can shoot the puck — we saw that on that nice goal," Thurston said of Lazo's goal that made it 4-0 Alberta late in the game Saturday.



AMIRALISHARIFI

Rodgers factored into the scoring both nights, playing with Chad Klassen and Derek Ryan, a line that combined for 11 points over the weekend.

"Alex Rodgers has really fit in nicely with two very skilled guys that often will take guys on, and hang onto the puck longer than most guys will, but he's fit in well working hard along the boards and cycling"

In goal, Real Cyr got the nod Friday

night and managed 19 saves on 21 shots before giving way to rookie Kurtis Mucha in Saturday night's contest.

In Mucha's first regular season start, the goaltender was stellar for the Bears, surrendering only the lone goal on 30 shots.

"He looked very in control of things. The one goal was a little bit of a seeing eye-shot," Thurston said.

"I think our goaltending so far has been excellent and that's a nice thing

to see because any time you get in this league, your goaltender has to be your best penalty killer and player. That's hopefully going to bode well for us down the way."

The Alberta penalty-killing unit was another bright spot, killing off all three of the Dinos' opportunities Friday, and holding Calgary to only one power-play marker Saturday with Jerrod Sauer beating Mucha on a five-on-three

advantage.

With nearly two weeks before their next game thanks to a bye week, getting out of the gate fast was that much more important for the three-time defending conference champions.

"You don't want to go into a bye week having not gotten any points or losing a game," Thurston said.

"Right off the start, you get into a good frame of things."

Rookie Golden Bear Johnny Lazo challenges notions of size in hockey

hockey profile

Johnny Lazo
Golden Bears Hockey

MAX LUTZ
Sports Writer

For Johnny Lazo, lacing up the skates this year as a rookie for the Golden Bears marks another step in an already illustrious junior hockey career. At just 21 years of age, the talented forward is easily making the transition from the Western Hockey League to a varsity career in Edmonton.

Born in Winnipeg, Lazo played top-tier hockey for the better part of his childhood. Crafting his game around agility and skill, Lazo idolized NHL stars of small stature and blazing speed.

"I always liked Pavel Bure — him and Paul Kariya were my two favorites," Lazo said. "They're smaller guys, really fast and that's kind of what I emulated my game around."

While his on-ice inspirations were instrumental to his development, he also had inspiration outside of hockey.

"Those guys I looked up to as far as on-ice role models, but off ice it was definitely my parents. They've been awesome, so supportive of me throughout my whole career."

That support would prove to be par-

amount to his success, as a young kid is not always able to independently overcome the many roadblocks that litter an athlete's development without help.

Never an imposing body on the ice, Lazo faced more than his share of obstacles while clawing his way through the trenches of elite minor hockey. While he has been able to overcome challenges and boasts some impressive achievements on his resume, his confidence took a hit earlier on in his career.

"Definitely for me, being a smaller guy, I was getting overlooked a lot," Lazo said, who experienced a low-point in his career when he was passed over at the WHL entry draft.

"It stung watching all of my buddies get drafted and then getting my name passed on even though I had more points than them."

Fortunately for Lazo, he was given an opportunity to try out for the Tri-City Americans of the WHL. In his rookie season with the Americans, Johnny notched 15 goals and 39 points. While this may seem like an impressive achievement for an undrafted player listed at 5'7 and 165 pounds, this was only the beginning. In his next two seasons in the WHL, Lazo recorded 161 points, including an eye-popping 39-goal campaign in his final year.

While his WHL days are over, Lazo has broad goals for the future, start-

ing here at the University of Alberta.

"I love it — the school's cool, the team's awesome, all the guys are really accepting right from day one."

Lazo is in Open Studies, but is working on getting a degree in physical education.

"Ideally, I would like to get my degree here, and then after that head over to Europe like [past Bears] Ian McDonald and Tyler Metcalfe. That would be great."

On top of school and hockey, Lazo is trying to get his Italian passport, which would enable him to play in Europe.

However, before setting his sights on Europe, Lazo has several years with the Bears to light up the ice at Clare Drake Arena.



SUPPLIED

Welcome to your new home, boys

Here are *The Gateway's* picks for this year's best NHL off-season acquisitions

SPORTS
STAFFGroup
Commentary

With the pre-season, grinding to a halt, NHL players are lacing up their skates for another year of glove saves, dangles, and top-shelf ringers. But before the players even hit the ice, pundits and fans from across the country are beginning to evaluate their team's off-season moves. As this year's NHL season kicks into high gear, *The Gateway's* expert staff discusses off-season acquisitions that will provide the fuel to drive a team to success this season.

**Bren Cargill**

The first signing of the free-agency period on July 1 just happened to be the most important when the Ottawa Senators signed Sergei Gonchar to a three-year contract, snatching him away from their conference rival Pittsburgh Penguins.

At the ancient age of 36, Gonchar is still one of the elite puck-moving defencemen in the NHL. Even with talents like Evgeni Malkin and Sidney Crosby in Pittsburgh, the catalyst for that team's powerplay was Gonchar. He can distribute the puck and shoot it better than most players can from the back end.

When the Penguins won the cup two years ago, it looked like they weren't even going to make the playoffs that season until two things happened — Dan Bylsma replaced Michel Therrien as head coach and Gonchar returned from a dislocated shoulder. The Pens' powerplay was abysmal without him and it's doubtful that he is a replaceable element of any team.

The Senators are going to profit greatly from his arrival. With Gonchar manning the point, Senators captain

Daniel Alfredsson can be moved to the second unit to face the secondary penalty defence while other developing players will profit from the crisp passes of the veteran defenseman.

The addition of Gonchar to the lineup in Ottawa may just be the key element to the team that will provide them the chemistry needed to melt the opposition during this year's playoffs.

**Nick Frost**

Once a team that held the third-longest streak of play-off appearances in all of professional

sports, the St. Louis Blues haven't had much to sing about since the NHL lockout. With the exception of a freak stretch drive that propelled them into sixth place in the Western Conference two years ago, they've failed to reach the post-season four out of the last five years, starting with 2005/06.

Within that span, one of the biggest common denominators for the Blues' seasonal lack of success was the absence of a true starting goaltender who could dominate a game even on nights when his teammates were lagging behind. Perhaps that's why the off-season acquisition of Jaroslav Halak in a deal with the Montreal Canadiens will prove to be a game-changer in the years to come.

St. Louis snagged the 25-year-old Slovakian netminder from the Habs on June 17 in exchange for top prospect Lars Eller and young grinder Ian Schultz.

Halak's stock has risen significantly in 2010, making him very enticing to Blues general manager Doug Armstrong. In February, the young Slovak led his countrymen to fourth-place at the 2010 Olympics, the nation's best finish ever in men's ice hockey. Shortly thereafter, he was named the starting goaltender for the Canadiens and backstopped his team to the Eastern Conference Finals, earning upsets over the heavily-favoured Washington Capitals and Pittsburgh Penguins along the way.

With Montreal needing to retain

Carey Price, their other young goalie, in order to facilitate his improvement and justify the team's decision to select him as their fifth-overall pick in 2005, Halak became expendable.

He now becomes the prized new possession in St. Louis, joining a youth movement in the dressing room

With nearly all of the aforementioned Blues youngsters having shown consistent flashes of brilliance at the NHL level (save for Pietrangelo) and with Halak now entering the fray, it's difficult to imagine that the Blues won't be contending for division or conference titles within the next few years.

**Max Lutz**

Despite losing to the Chicago Blackhawks last season in the second round of the playoffs, the returning Northwest Division champions seem destined to check their opponents into the boards this season on their way to a deep playoff run.

After several breakout performances last season, Hart Trophy winner Henrik Sedin and the Vancouver Canucks seem destined to do considerable damage last year. However, while the team's offence was potent in the playoffs, gaping holes in their defence were exposed and led to their eventual downfall and elimination from last year's playoffs.

With that in mind, Canucks general manager Mike Gillis took steps towards cementing holes in his porous blueline with the hopes of hoisting Lord Stanley's trophy this year. Gillis shipped two offensive standouts to Florida in exchange for Keith Ballard — a man infamous for his ability to slam the door on even the most skilled puck handlers.

The added depth on the blue line is likely to help gold-medal winning goalie Roberto Luongo keep pucks out of the net and push the Canucks to be a premier contender in the West Division for the sport's greatest trophy.



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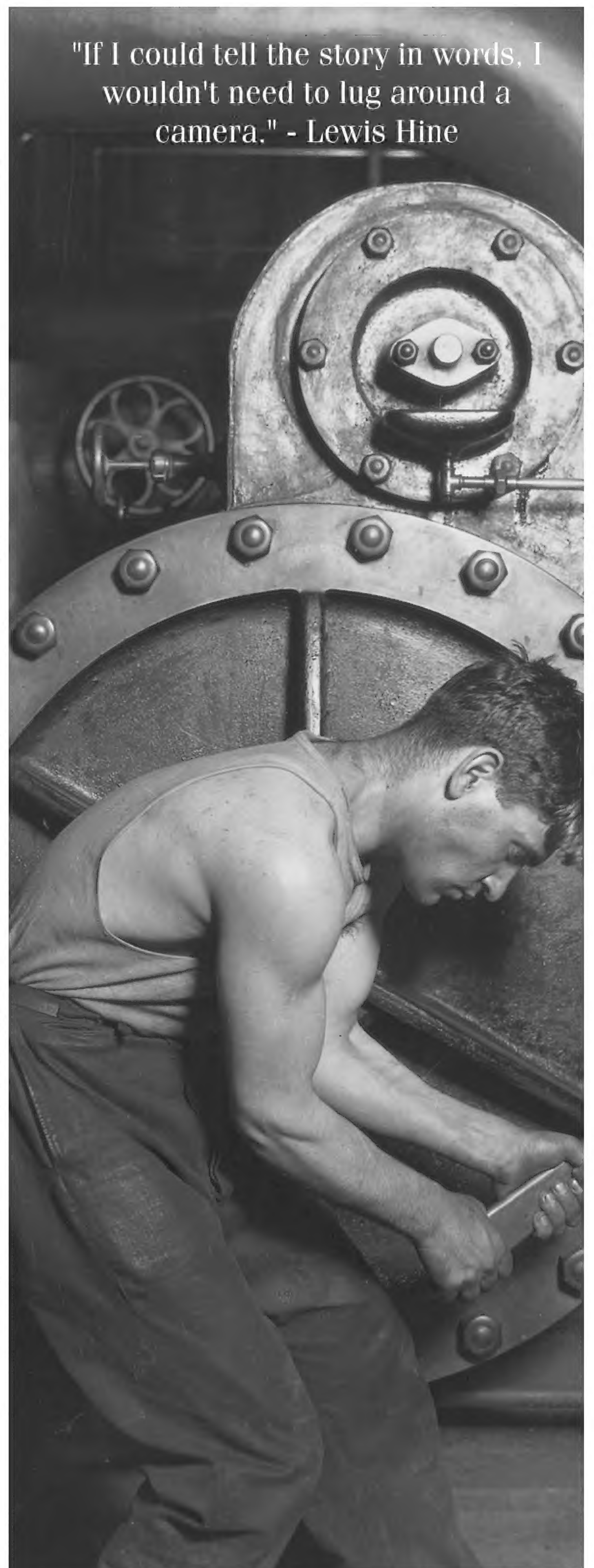
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EDMONTON JOURNAL

sports shorts

Compiled by Matt Hirji

Pandas Soccer

The nationally number-one ranked Pandas soccer team leads off this year's inaugural Sports Shorts. Playing two away games this weekend at the furthest reaches of the Canada West conference, the Pandas faced off against the Regina Cougars and the Manitoba Bisons.

The first game of the weekend saw the Pandas struggling to adjust to the artificial turf at Regina's Mosaic Stadium against a disciplined opponent. Battling the Pandas' strikers and the powerful Saskatchewan winds, the Cougars held onto a shutout draw with the Foot Pandas.

Motivated by a number-one ranking teetering in the balance, the Pandas completed their second match of the weekend with a strong team performance in Manitoba. With two goals in the second half, the Pandas were constantly the aggressors in the match and finished the weekend with a convincing 2-0 win against the struggling Bisons.

The Pandas return home this weekend to challenge two west-coast opponents, the UVic Vikes and the University of the Fraser Valley Cascades, hoping to make an impression on their Canada West rivals on the road to the national championships.

Bears Soccer

The Foot Bears travelled west this weekend for a two-game slugfest against the UBC Thunderbirds and the Trinity Western Spartans, returning to the prairies a confident team after two convincing wins against the powerful opponents.

Third-year midfielder Sam Lam continued his hot streak, netting three goals and leading the Foot Bears to a 2-1 victory against UBC on Saturday and then concluding his spectacular performance on the pitch as the Bears trampled Trinity Western 4-0 on Sunday afternoon.

The number-four ranked Bears will return to their familiar stomping ground this weekend and will hope to continue their excellent play against the Vikes and the Cascades.

Pandas Field Hockey

The Field Pandas are still searching for their first win of the season after losing both of their games this weekend in Vancouver against the UBC Thunderbirds.

The Pandas have struggled this season under the leadership of their third head coach in as many years, but showed improvement this weekend, scoring a single goal against the notoriously quick Thunderbirds.

The bottom-ranked Pandas are still without a win this season, but will look to continue their road towards improvement next weekend against another British Columbia squad, the University of Victoria Vikes, at Foote Field this weekend for a pair of conference matches.

Bears Football

The Gridiron Bears continued their downward spiral this weekend, losing to the University of Regina Rams 40-8, and chalking up their third straight loss.

After winning their first two September matches, the Bears now sit in the lower half of the Canada West Conference and the lights are dimming on their post-season hopes.

On a windy Saturday afternoon at Mosaic Stadium in Regina, the Rams trampled the Bears with Rams quarterback Marc Muller tossing for two touchdowns and 274 yards.

The Rams were at the top of their game this weekend, with both their defensive and offensive schemes timed correctly, which wreaked havoc on the Bears playbook. Running back Adrian Charles ran for more than 100 yards, while defensive lineman Chris Muchena tore through the Bears' offence, sacking quarterback Julian Marchand 5.5 times.

The Bears' struggles continued throughout the game, with their sole touchdown coming from the quick feet of Randon Ralph, who returned a fourth-quarter kickoff and brought back the football 98 yards for the major.

The Green and Gold will try to redeem themselves this weekend as they return home to Foote Field this Saturday to battle the UBC Thunderbirds. Like the Bears, the 1-4 Thunderbirds have had a difficult time taking off this season. They have already suffered a defeat at the hands of the Bears and will look to redeem themselves and their dismal record this weekend.

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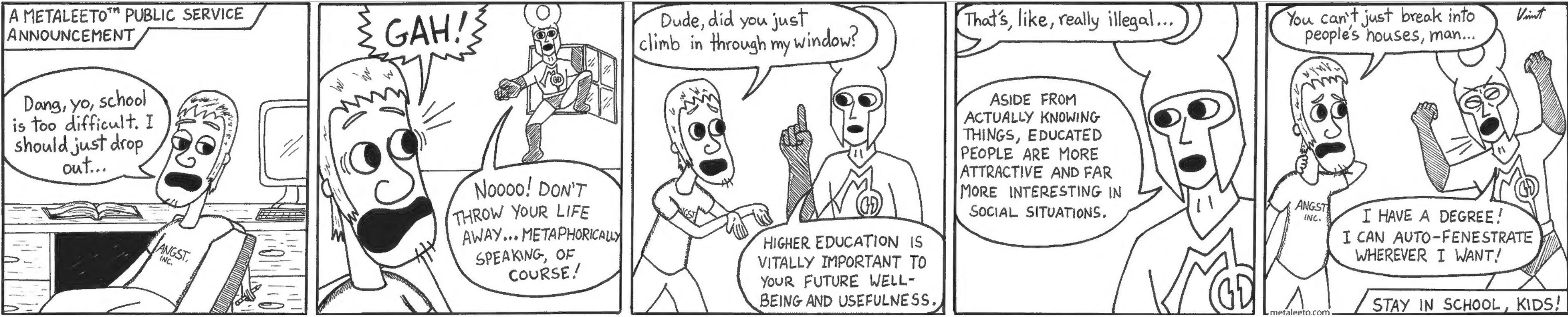
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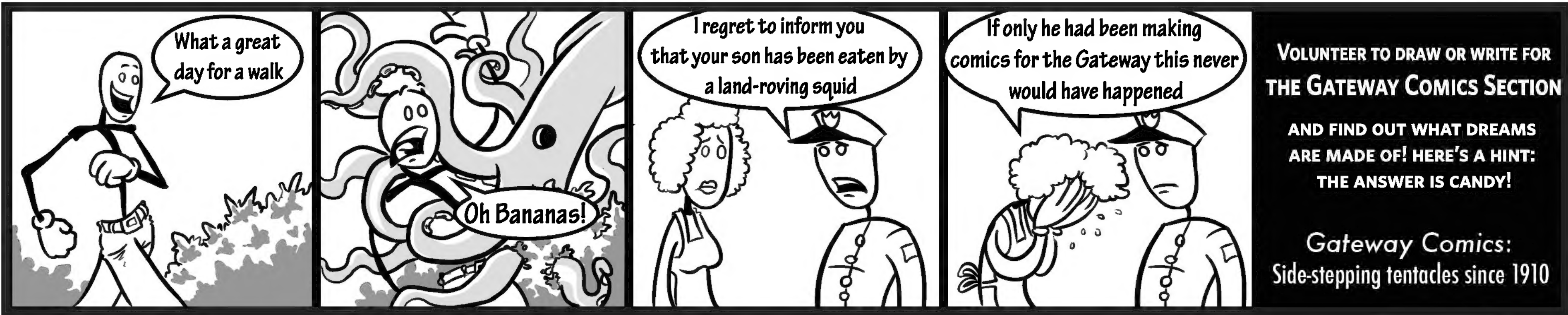
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